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## The Washington Times

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SECTION TWO.

WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JULY 24, 1919.

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### CAPITAL BEST CONVENTION CITY IN U. S.

**Chamber of Commerce Plans to Restore Washington to Pre-War Basis.**

By BILL PRICE.  
Bring the conventions back to Washington.  
That's to be the slogan of the Chamber of Commerce in a campaign about to be instituted by a committee of that body, which will hold its preliminary session tonight. Until the war came more than two years ago, filling hotels and boarding houses with army and navy officers and thousands of people having dealings with the various branches of the Government, Washington was the greatest convention city of the United States, probably of the world. The chief rival was Atlantic City.

There was no use asking conventions to come here after the war started. Hosts of people interested in Government activities could not get rooms in hotels, apartment houses or anywhere else and went to Baltimore or nearby points in the evenings.

**Situation Better Now.**  
That situation does not exist today and hotel men are co-operating with the Chamber of Commerce in its plan to restore Washington to its old place as the convention city of the world. The hotels can once more accommodate large numbers of visitors.

Another war phase was the lack of seating capacity for conventions or other gatherings. The Chamber believes this is now solved.

The hall room of the Willard Hotel will seat 1,000, while for larger gatherings the chamber believes it has assurance that Liberty Hall will be available after it is relinquished by the Y. M. C. A.

Liberty Hall is the property of the United States. It was built for the Sunday-schools of the city upon a Government reservation, part of the plans between the Capitol grounds and the station.

Elliott Woods, superintendent and architect and superintendent of the Capitol, does not believe the Government will take any steps to destroy Liberty Hall until it also arranges for tearing down the dormitories for girls employed by the Government. That may be some years off, as things now look.

Liberty Hall will seat 4,000 people, and in a pinch 5,000 can be cared for.

**City Doubly Attractive.**  
Data secured by Secretary Seymour of the Chamber of Commerce, shows that over 200 conventions of large organizations of the United States have not arranged their meeting places for next year. As this versatile purveyor of smooth language puts it, "If Washington was the most attractive city in the United States before the war, it is today doubly attractive, because it is now the center of the world in all sorts of activities."

The American Bankers' Association meets in St. Louis this year, and the District Bankers' Association is considering the matter of extending its invitation to meet here in 1920. The American association has quarters in Washington, and there is a prospect that it may locate its national headquarters here.

It is estimated that the annual convention of the bankers would leave \$1,000,000 in Washington, scattered among hotels and business houses, benefitting nearly all lines of business and making strong friends for Washington.

Atlantic City, which recently had the Elks' convention, is understood to be \$2,000,000 better off from the presence of these live wires.

**Convention Committee.**  
The convention committee of the Chamber of Commerce is composed of the following: J. A. Finigan, chairman; James B. Henderson, vice chairman; E. C. Graham, William G. Carter, George W. Harris, John H. Meyer, George S. DeNeale, Frank M. Low, W. Everett, Phil King, Henry Linsburgh, M. E. Horton, L. B. Burchell, George F. Sack, J. A. Whitfield, Fleming Newbold, Edgar D. Shaw, John F. Jarvis, A. L. Cline, G. Thomas Dunlop, H. M. Crandall, F. S. Hight, T. A. McKee, E. C. Owen, George F. Schutt, N. S. Downs, Corcoran Thom, M. Goldenberg.

Besides getting in direct touch, through correspondence, with officials of the big organizations that will name convention cities and dates for next year, the committee is expected to arrange for a personal representative of the chamber to visit the officials, if necessary, laying before them the advantages of Washington as a convention center and its ability to handle large and small gatherings.

**ONE-PIECE SUITS BARRED IN TIDAL BASIN CONTEST**  
A committee of five has been appointed by the management of the tidal bathing beach to select the most beautiful girl and bathing costume on the beach Saturday afternoon.

The committee is made up of the following: Clifford K. Berryman, George J. Zolnay, Henry K. Bush-Brown, Virginia Lee, and Billie Engle. All costumes on the beach Saturday must comply with the regulations of the beach. One-piece suits are barred.

Wouldn't you pay a quarter to buy your child a virtue? Buy a Thirties today. It's the most intelligent thing you can do.

### FIGHT FOR LIFE OF VICTIM OF RIOTING

**Benjamin Belmont, Shot in Heart, Develops Traumatic Pneumonia.**

The death of Private Edward Havlicek, the marine who was shot in the neck at Fifteenth and New York avenue northwest Monday night, made the sixth fatality resulting from four nights of race rioting in Washington. Private Havlicek died late yesterday afternoon at the Naval Hospital. The body will be taken to Chicago by his brother Frank.

The condition of Benjamin Belmont, Home Defense Leaguer, who was shot near the heart Tuesday night at Ninth and M streets northwest, has taken a turn for the worse, as he has contracted a case of traumatic pneumonia.

At an early hour this morning his temperature rose to 102 degrees and he lapsed into unconsciousness. Doctors at Emergency Hospital are fighting hard to save his life, but at noon today could make no definite statement as to whether he would recover. Belmont was operated on this morning by Dr. J. Ward Mankin, resident surgeon.

**All Others Will Recover.**  
All the other victims of the rioting on Monday and Tuesday nights will, physicians announced at the various hospitals, where the men are being treated.

Policeman Arthur C. Thompson, shot through the lungs, was resting quietly at Casualty Hospital today, and is thought to be out of danger.

George Dent, alias George Gentry, colored, shot five times through the arms and body by Detective Swenson, will recover, it was stated at Washington Asylum Hospital today. Gentry is being held responsible for the killing of Kenneth Crall and the wounding of Albert Finlayson, 629 Fourth street northeast; Ernest Albert Giovanni, thirteen years old, of 470 K street northwest, and Capt. Chauncey M. Boldridge, of 210 Fourth street southeast.

**Other Riot Victims.**  
Other riot victims who were seriously wounded, but who are now reported out of danger are: Roy Diggs, colored, 1633 New Jersey avenue northwest, shot in the head, treated at Emergency Hospital.

Marcus Williams, colored, 2133 H street northwest, shot through cheek, Freedman Hospital.

Robert Broadus, colored, 910 E street northwest, shot through body, broken jaw, Emergency Hospital.

The following statement was forwarded today to Major Raymond W. Pullman by Secretary of War Newton D. Baker:

"Order was maintained in the city of Washington last night and there was a considerable spirit of helpfulness on the part of citizens, both white and colored. They observed the general request of the civil authorities to abstain from crowding the public streets, and on every hand showed a sympathetic attitude toward the civil authorities and the soldiers who were assisting them in the maintenance of order."

The organization for the policing of the city was, of course, in the hands of the civil authorities, who had the situation completely in control."

**RIOTS SCARE HELP AWAY FROM BUREAU**  
It developed today that one of the many institutions affected by the race riots was the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, where hundreds of negroes are employed, particularly on the night shifts. Normal conditions are being rapidly restored and the terrorism spread among the negroes by the incensed white employees has about subsided.

The number of negroes began to dwindle after the first night of rioting until Tuesday night there were less than fifty out of the 500 regular employees on the job.

Secret Service men were detailed to the big building, and Major Pullman has had a score of policemen on hand every night to keep the crowds moving. Special guards were also placed around the building to prevent lawless negroes from shooting through the windows.

**RENEW SEARCH FOR NEGRO ASSAILANT**  
While three local detectives are running down all clues in the possession of the local police and Prince Georges county authorities, armed forces of the citizenry of Capitol Heights today renewed their search for the negro who attacked Mrs. Helen Nightengale Monday night.

Kelly, and Scrivener yesterday obtained a description of the negro assailant from Mrs. Nightengale.

### DRAFT PLANS TO ORGANIZE D. C. FOOD BODY

**Members of Distributing Association to Take Final Action At Meeting Tomorrow Night.**

Final action on the formation of a permanent food selling organization will be taken at a meeting in the board room of the District Building at 8 o'clock tomorrow night.

Members of the executive committee of the Community Distributing Association met at the Park View School last night, and formulated plans which will be presented to the general meeting.

The committee is composed of John G. McGrath, chairman; W. Carwin Ryan, president of Federal Employees' Union, No. 2; Miss Cecil Norton, community center representative; A. J. Driscoll, representing the Citizens' Association; Edward A. Lyette, Washington Steel and Ordnance Company, and E. G. Ladd, of the navy yard.

Plans for the organization, as outlined at the meeting last night, included a joint conference of the executive committee and representatives of trade and civic bodies to arrange co-operative measures, the expansion of the executive committee, and the establishment of an equitable buying system.

**Many Delegates To Attend.**  
The meeting on Monday night will be attended by delegates from the Government departments and bureaus, Federal and city; the Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce, Central Labor Union, Federation of Citizens' Associations, Washington Steel and Ordnance Company, Merchants and Manufacturers' Association and the community centers of Washington.

Efforts are being made by Mr. McGrath to have Commissioner Gardner, Congressman Kelley of Pennsylvania, and Congressman Oliver present as speakers at the meeting.

Edward A. Lyette proposed at the meeting that 15 cards be sold to persons wishing to buy food through the organization before the next shipment of surplus army food is ordered. The cards would be worth their face value for the days of the food sales.

The committee approved the proposal and will bring it before the meeting Friday night for final endorsement.

Mr. McGrath has issued a request to the different departments which purchased portions of the first carload of army food to send in the payments on their requisitions.

"But two-thirds of the returns, which will amount to \$5,000, have been received," said Mr. McGrath. "I will be at my office in the District Building from 1 to 5 o'clock this afternoon to receive payments."

**Plan to Sell Stock.**  
Present plans of the Community Distributing Association call for the incorporation of the organization under the laws of the District, and the sale of \$50,000 worth of stock to residents of Washington.

Mr. McGrath states that persons who invest in the stock will be assured of a fair per cent of interest on their money, besides having the satisfaction of knowing that they are helping reduce the high cost of food in Washington.

It is expected that with the Community Distributing Association derailing a majority of the retail food stores in Washington, the cost of living in the National Capital will be forced down to something like pre-war prices.

**Plans for conducting the Washington playgrounds for the summer were outlined at a meeting of directors, assistant directors, and assistants in the board room of the District building yesterday.**

Economy in the use of supplies by the playgrounds was urged by Mrs. Susie Roth Rhodes, supervisor of the municipal playgrounds. Mrs. Rhodes said that a limited amount of supplies only are available.

Progress at the colored playgrounds was explained by A. M. Morton, swimming instructor at the Howard pool; and Charles H. Houston, who made a report on the men's and boys' athletic program.

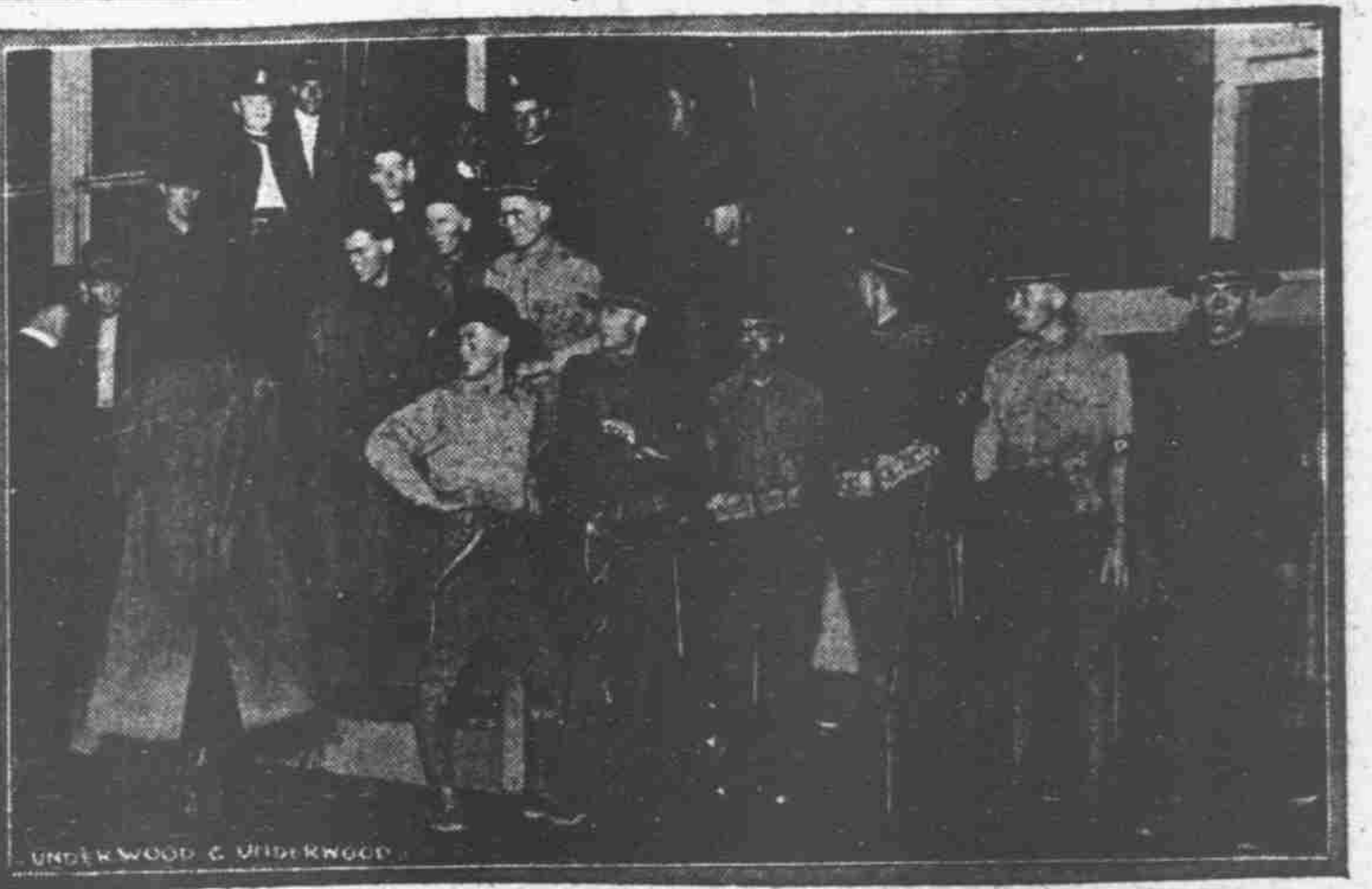
Miss Katharine Kall told of the plans for the girls' playgrounds this summer while C. W. Donaldson, superintendent of the boys' section, also outlined his program at the meeting.

Frederick J. Brunner, swimming instructor at Central High School, made suggestions to life guards and swimming instructors of the municipal playgrounds.

**SENATOR PAT HARRISON ADDRESSES FRENCH CLUB**  
Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi and Dr. Tom A. Williams will be the principal speakers at the monthly meeting of the French Club of the Washington Salon at 1517 H street tonight.

Senator Harrison will speak on "The League of Nations," and Dr. Williams will give a talk on "Mental Hygiene in War Time." A short business meeting will precede the program of speeches.

### Rioter Being Taken to Station, and Military Guards



Negro rioter being taken into police station, and group of troops that form part of the military detail that has been on duty in Washington for several nights helping the police keep down disorder.



Armed marines in motor truck patrolling Pennsylvania avenue to keep down disorder. The marines were in constant touch with the police stations and were ready for duty in any part of the city. They bore the brunt of the fighting in several sections of the city where the disorders were the worst, and several of them were wounded.

### GEN. HAAN FEARS NO MORE RIOTING HERE

(Continued from First Page.)

Toomey, her brother, who is a discharged Canadian soldier.

Returning from a downtown theater, Mrs. Brennan and her brother encountered the negroes, who began using profane language. Fearing they were to be attacked, Mrs. Brennan and her brother started to run. When they did so, the negro fired at them.

Reaching her home, Mrs. Brennan barricaded it and then telephoned Police Headquarters. Inspector of Detectives Clifford Grant and a large force of soldiers rushed to the scene, but the negroes had disappeared. No arrests were made.

**Fired on From Auto.**  
Paul E. Berger, 1802 Fourteenth street northwest, was fired upon by one of four negroes in an automobile at Fourteenth street and Rhode Island avenue northwest. None of the shots struck Berger.

A disturbance which nearly precipitated a riot occurred on a Capital Traction car at Seventh and O streets northwest, when three negroes, following an argument, attacked James Russell, the conductor. Thomas Sheel, the motorman, went to Russell's aid and both were injured in the fist fight that followed.

Headquarters Detectives Vermillion and Joseph Grant were nearby and rushed into the car and arrested three negroes, who gave their names as Alphonsus White, Alphonsus Barber and Robert Bowie. They were taken to Second precinct police station and charged with assault.

"There might be sporadic assaults, but there will be no more mob violence," declared Inspector Grant, "this morning." "We have every confidence that the rioting will stop. Everything points that way."

**Promises More Arrests.**  
"I am satisfied," continued Inspector Grant, "that the negroes who are being arrested are mostly of the bootlegger type. We have received reports that these bootleggers, armed with revolvers, were to dash through the city and fire promiscuously into crowds and create a reign of terror. Hundreds of these have been arrested, and others are known. Their arrest is to follow."

As a direct result of the shooting of Isaac W. Halbfinger and Benjamin Belmont, both of the Home Defense

### WIVES OF GUARDS WORRY AT HOME

War-time anxiety on the part of the women, those who had sent their loved ones out to fight, reigned again in the homes of Washington during the past few nights. Wives of policemen, families of members of the Home Defense League, and the loved ones of soldiers who guarded the streets of the Capital during the night waited anxiously for the word that the "man" of the family was safe.

Until a late hour last night, and even after midnight, scores of calls reached The Times office over the telephone from anxious wives and mothers or sweethearts.

**Many Inquiries.**  
"Is there any trouble tonight?" a voice would inquire over the telephone, and upon assurance that the streets were quiet except in a few instances of separated disorder, the questioner would "ring off" with a heartfelt "thank you."

Wives of policemen perhaps suffered the greatest. Those women who saw their husbands grimly preparing for a night tour of duty in streets which might become at any minute a battle ground, and the agonies of watchful, fearful waiting until word came that the streets were quiet, and the mob spirit broken.

**Reassure Wives.**  
In more than one precinct station a policeman, coming in on his tour of duty, first reported to the sergeant at the desk, and then slipping quickly into the telephone booth called up "the wife, just to let her know I'm all right, just to know. She's worried tonight."

As the offices and Government buildings poured their crowds on the street near 5 o'clock in the evening, the men spent little time standing around or waiting for any excitement to develop.

The cars were quickly filled and the streets cleared. And it is thought that more than one husband hurried home because of the telephone call that reached him earlier in the day, bidding him to "come straight home now, and don't wait for any trouble. I'll be looking for you."

**IT OUGHT TO WORK.**  
NEW YORK, July 24.—Frank A. Gilcrest has invented a bomb which he says will stop rioting. You mix it of ether, alcohol, and things. He pointed out that the power of alcohol is well known.

### KENTUCKY SOCIETY OF D. C. TO HOLD MEETING TONIGHT

The Kentucky Society will meet tonight at John Thompson School at 8:30 as originally scheduled.

On account of the riots, the gathering was called off yesterday. The ban was lifted this morning and Mrs. D. H. Kinchloe, wife of Congressman Kinchloe of the Blue Grass State, who is president of the society, is endeavoring to reach as many members of the society as possible.

**THREE STATE LEGISLATURES TO VOTE UPON SUFFRAGE**  
A special session of the State legislature of Montana has been called to meet on July 29 to vote on the suffrage amendment. It was announced by the National Women's Party today.

**COMRADES CARRY WILSON'S COFFIN**  
Funeral of Detective Slain in Race Riots Also Attended By Police Officials.

Attended by police officials and his comrades on the police force, the funeral of Detective Sgt. Harry Wilson, who was shot to death in the race riots Monday, was held at 2 o'clock this afternoon from the undertaking establishment of Martin W. Hyson, 1300 N street northwest.

The pallbearers were the detectives who were with him when he was shot, including Patrick O'Brien, Fleet L. Hughlett, Joseph Grant, Edward J. Kelly, A. B. Scrivener, Thomas F. Sweeney, and Joseph E. Morgan.

Mrs. Wilson, who was visiting relatives in the city, arrived in Washington yesterday after having been notified of her husband's death by Inspector Clifford L. Grant, chief of detectives. She has requested there be no police escort.

The body of Wilson will be placed in a vault in Prospect Hill cemetery and later will be removed and buried in New York where he was born. Before coming to Washington, Detective Wilson was a private detective in a Toronto, Can., department store.

In speaking of the death of Wilson, Inspector Grant this morning said: "Detective Wilson was one of the most gentlemanly and intelligent detectives I have ever met. He was fearless and he was killed, when Washington was in a reign of terror, he performed his work, although realizing his life to be in constant danger, with a fearless spirit that deserves the highest commendation."

### HEARINGS ON 50-50 PLAN ARE DELAYED

**House D. C. Committee Postpones Mapes Bill Discussion Until September.**

Hearings on the Mapes bill to abolish the half and half fiscal relations between the District of Columbia and the Federal Government, will not begin until late in September.

At a meeting of the House District of Columbia Committee today, discussion was had of a proposal by Congressman Romjue to hold hearings next week. Congressman Wheeler objected, declaring that "We don't want to come up here during the hot weather and hear this stuff gone over and over again, and so I object."

There were only eight members of the committee present. It was claimed that they are not inclined to go into a detailed hearing.

**Minds All Made Up.**  
"I believe that most of the members of this committee have already made up their minds about this question, but the citizens' committee of the District has asked for a hearing and we ought to give it to them," was the statement of Chairman Carl E. Mapes.

It was pointed out that Congress will shortly take a recess and that were hearings to be begun at this time they could not be completed before adjournment.

**POLICE SELL FOUND ARTICLES SATURDAY**  
The annual police sale of lost, stolen and abandoned property reported by the Police Department during the past year, and which was not claimed by the owners, will be held at 633 Louisiana avenue northwest, beginning Saturday morning at 10 o'clock and continuing until the goods are sold.

The list of articles to be sold this year varies from two artificial limbs to the automobiles. Included in the list are over 100 automobile tires, physicians' satchels containing scientific instruments, laparoses, shoes, clothing, jewelry, suitcases, foodstuffs, opera glasses, shotguns, bicycles and several other articles.

Policemen Edward Wall, Thomas McGrath, and C. S. Montgomery, in charge of property today compiled the list of goods which will go on sale Saturday. David Notes will auction the goods.

**FALLS OFF FENCE HUNTING SLAYER**  
Corporal Counsel Conrad H. Syme narrowly escaped serious injury Tuesday when he fell from a fence he was climbing in search of the negro who shot and killed Isaac W. Halbfinger and seriously wounded Benjamin Belmont.

When the report reached Police Headquarters Tuesday night that the two men had been shot, Mr. Syme hurried to the scene and joined the authorities in their search.

Receiving information that the negro had sprinted over a fence into a yard in Blagden alley, Mr. Syme followed several members of the Home Defense League and asked to be lifted over the fence. He was raised up and when about to leap into the yard lost his balance and fell.

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